IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph on page 31, beginning at line 23, and replace with the following new paragraph:

Assay of luciferase activity: The wildtype mouse myotrophin 3' UTR target site was PCR amplified using the following primers: 5' TCCATCATTTCATATGCACTGTATC 3' SEQ. ID. NO.: 61 and 5' TCATATCGTTAAGGACGTCTGGAAA 3' SEQ ID. NO.: 62 and subcloned into pCR 2.1 TOPO (Invitrogen). The fragment was removed with *Spe*I and *Xba*I and subsequently subcloned into the *Xba*I site immediately downstream of stop codon in pRL-TK (Promega). This construct was used to generate the mutant mouse myotrophin plasmid using primers: 5' AAGTTTCGTGTTGCAAG**CC**C**CCC**TGGAATAAACTTGAATTGTGC 3' SEQ. ID. NO.: 63 and 5' GCACAATTCAAGTTTATTCCA**GGG**G**GG**CTTGCAACACGAAACTT 3' SEQ. ID. NO.: 64 according to protocol (Stratagene); bold and underline indicate mutated nucleotides. MIN6 cells were cultured in 24 well plates for 2 days and transfected with both 0.4 μg of the pRL-TK reporter vector coding for *Rr*-luc and 0.1 μg of the pGL3 control vector coding for *Pp*-luc (Promega). Cells were harvested 30-36 hours post-transfection and assayed.

Please delete the paragraph on page 33, beginning at line 1, and replace with the following new paragraph:

Northern blotting: Total RNA was extracted using TRIZOL reagent (Invitrogen) and loaded onto 15% polyacrylamine or agarose gels. After electrophoresis, RNA was transferred to Hybond membrane (Amersham) and probed. A DNA probe for mouse myotrophin was generated using primers: 5' GTGGGCCCTGAAAAACGGAGACTTG 3' SEQ. ID. NO.: 65 and 5' CCCTTTGACAGAAGCAATTTCACGC 3' SEQ. ID. NO.: 66.